

**Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO) Planning Grant
RHITA 2009-01
Summary – December 17, 2008**

Grant Program Characteristics

- Purpose: Provide additional funding to assist multi-stakeholder groups engaged in the formation of Regional Health Information Organizations (RHIOs) serving rural Arizona that were successful recipients of RHITA 2008-01 grand awards.
- Total grant funds available: approximately \$200,000-300,000;
- Individual grant size: No set amount or range
- Grant duration: Nine (9) months
- Multiple grants allowed; Partial awards may be funded
- GITA will provide grantee support and grant program management.

Eligible Submitters

- Proposals may be submitted only by multi-stakeholder groups that were successful recipients of a RHITA 2008-01 grant.
- Lead applicants of the RHITA 2008-01 grant are expected to continue as the lead applicant in the RHITA 2009-01 grant.
- Lead applicant responsibilities: Primary contact, Project management, Fiscal agent, Grant reporting

Grant Funded Activities

- Activity Model: Applicants are expected to use the RHIO Formation model as a basis for their application. GITA has developed a companion *RHIO Formation Guide* that describes the model and related domains of activity. Applicants are instructed to refer to the guide available on the GITA website (www.azgita.gov/ehealth/rhita) in developing their project plan.
- Funded Activities: The grants are to be used for activities in the following domains: Business Foundation, Governance, Privacy and Security, Community Outreach, Economic Sustainability and Education. However, only applicants that can document actual or planned completion of predecessor activities described in more detail in the RFG may apply for funds to support the following domains: Privacy and Security, Community Outreach, Economic Sustainability and Education.
- Non-funded Activities: Grant funds may not be used for activities in Community Leadership, Technical Architecture and Practice Transformation domains. Grants may not be used to fund health information technology (HIT) projects.

Proposal Evaluation

- Proposals will be evaluated by a team of independent representatives using the following weighted criteria:
 - 60% Project Description and Project Plan
 - 30% Financial
 - 10% Multi-Stakeholder Group

Schedule

- Award Payments: Progress payments will be made in increments of 25% of the award. Payments will be conditioned on demonstration of appropriate progress and made at the end of months two, four and six and at project completion
- Reporting: The lead grantee will report at the end of months two, four and six and at project completion.
- Key Dates
 - Release Request for Grant (RFG) December 17, 2008
 - Proposals Due January 30, 2009
 - Awards Announced (estimated) February 27, 2009